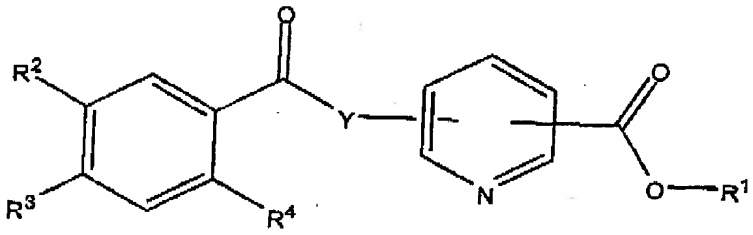
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method of enhancing the stability during administer~~ing~~ation of multiple unit dosages of a compound of Formula I:



Formula I

wherein

R^1 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl;

R^2 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or adamantyl;

R^3 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or hydroxy; or

R^2 and R^3 taken together are $-(CR^6R^7)_n-$;

R^4 is C_{2-8}-alkyl, C_{2-8}-alkenyl, C_{2-8}-alkynyl, $-OCH_2R^5$ or C_{2-8}-alkanoyl, or hydrogen when R^3 is hydroxy;

R^5 is C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{2-6}-alkenyl or C_{2-6}-alkynyl;

R^6 and R^7 are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl;

Y is oxygen or sulfur; and

n is 3, 4, or 5,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salts of carboxylic acid of formula I,

wherein said method comprises the step of admixing multiple unit dosages of said compound in solid form with a topical carrier to form a topical formulation within forty-eight hours~~seven days~~ prior to first topical administration of said formulation, and refrigerating said formulation during the course of administration of said multiple unit dosages.

2. (original) A method of claim 1, wherein said topical carrier substantially dissolves said compound.

3. (original) A method of claim 1, wherein said topical carrier suspends said compound.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (original) A method of claim 1, wherein said topical carrier further comprises a gelling agent.

7. (currently amended) A method of claim 2, wherein said ~~method comprises admixing multiple unit dosages of said compound and said~~ topical carrier comprises a member selected from the group consisting of diisopropyl adipate, diisopropyl sebacate, diisocetyl adipate, triacetin, caprylic/capric triglyceride, and isopropyl myristate.

8. (Canceled)

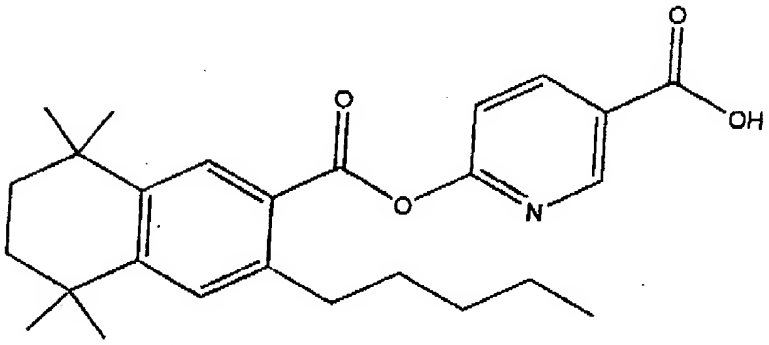
9. (original) A method of claim 1, wherein said formulation comprises about 0.01% to about 0.1%, by weight, of said compound.

10. (original) A method of claim 7, wherein said method further comprises admixing said formulation comprising said compound with a cream or a gel.

Claims 11 – 20 (cancelled)

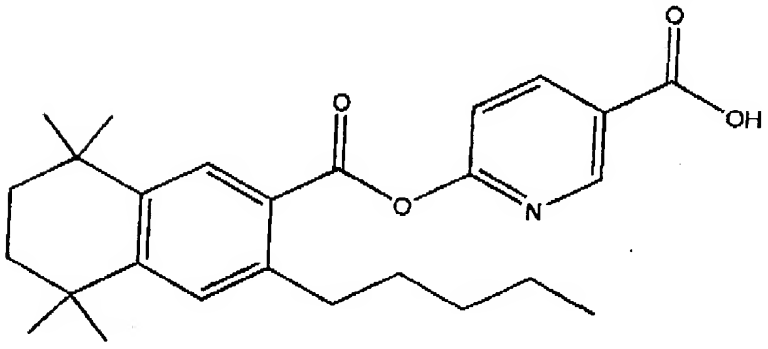
21. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1, wherein said method further comprises admixing said formulation comprising said compound with a cream or a gel.

22. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1, wherein said compound is



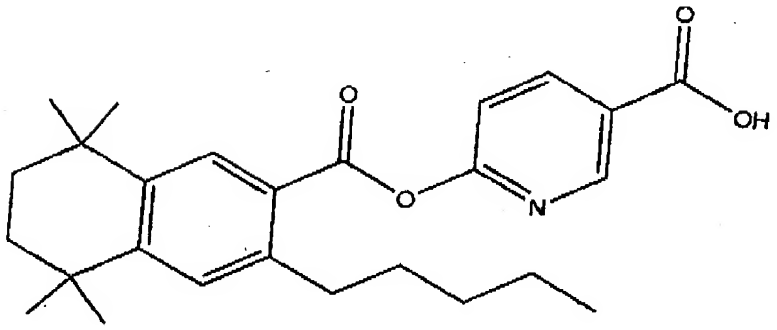
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

23. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 2, wherein said compound is



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

24. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 3, wherein said compound is

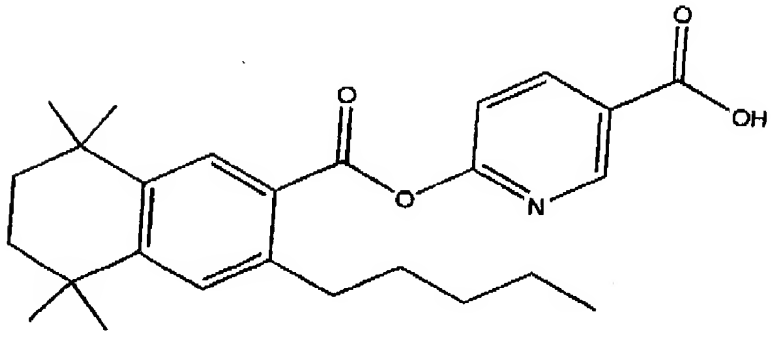


or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

25. (Canceled)

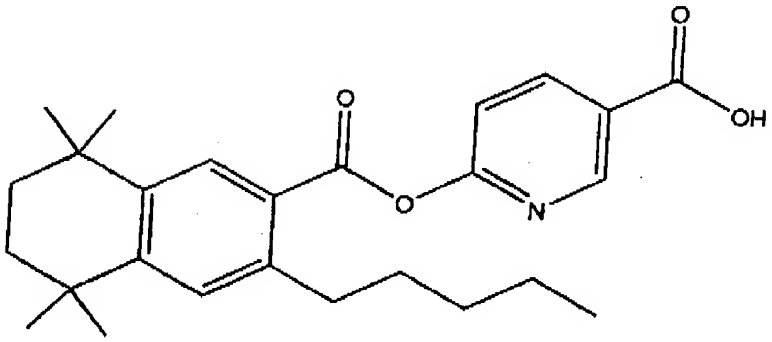
26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 6, wherein said compound is



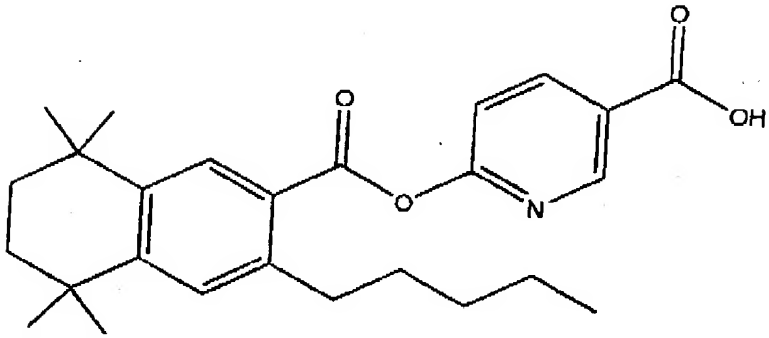
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

28. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 7, wherein said compound is



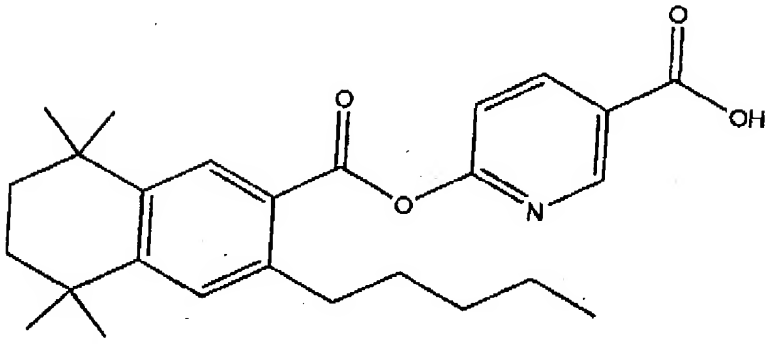
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

29. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 9, wherein said compound is



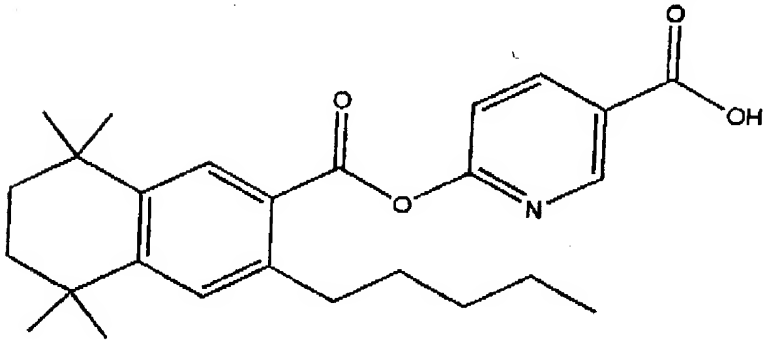
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

30. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 10, wherein said compound is



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

31. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 21, wherein said compound is

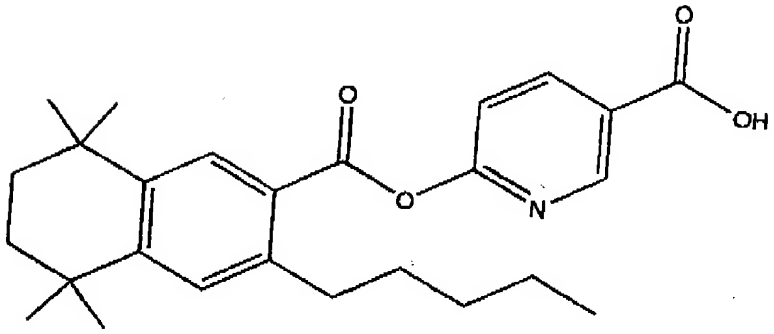


or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

32. (New) A method of claim 1, wherein said topical carrier comprises a member selected from the group consisting of diisopropyl adipate, diisopropyl sebacate, diisocetyl adipate, triacetin, caprylic/capric triglyceride, and isopropyl myristate.

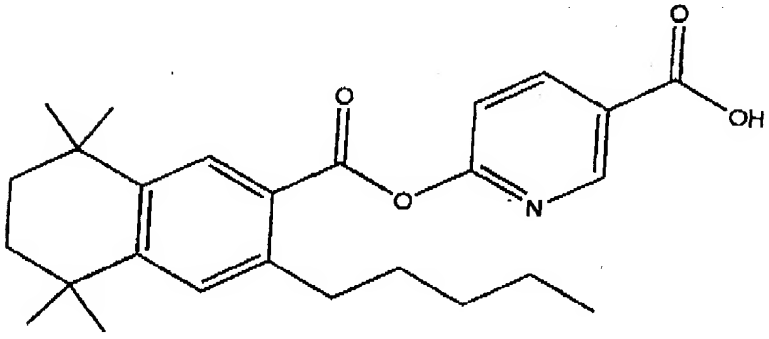
33. (New) A method of claim 32, wherein said formulation comprises about 0.01% to about 0.1%, by weight, of said compound.

34. (New) A method of claim 32, wherein said compound is



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

35. (New) A method of claim 33, wherein said compound is



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.